

Rhodesia and the Commonwealth

THE inability of the Commonwealth to be of any real use to those who desire to see the end of white settler rule in Rhodesia, must be obvious to all without blinkers.

It was at the Commonwealth Conference, last year, that the heads of Commonwealth countries called for a constitutional conference on the future of Rhodesia and for the release of political detainees and prisoners.

Just to emphasise the pathetic role of the Commonwealth, the Rhodesian Government, just a few days before this year's conference, made it known that Mrs. Chinamano, the wife of Mr. Nkomo's chief aide, was to be restricted for five years without trial. Only two months ago Mrs. Chinamano and her husband ended a year's restriction without trial. Now, with Mr. Chinamano expected to follow his wife into restriction, their five children—the youngest is three years old—will be 'orphans' again. Of the first eight years of the youngest child's life, he has been forced by the Rhodesian Government to live without his parents for all but two of them.

For all the many words issued forth condemning the Rhodesian Government damn all is being done. The racism of Britain, both internally and overseas, should be enough to insult the African governments who come here to talk around a table. But no, the African people of Rhodesia can stew in their own juice for all these bourgeois Africans care. A few words—treated with contempt by Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister—are enough to satisfy them.

One notices that Rhodesian African leaders in London during the Commonwealth conference, denounced the much heralded communique as a fraud. They, at least, know that their people are not helped one jot by hot air. Let the African Premiers claim they forced a concession from the British Government, but Rhodesian Africans know that as Britain has been endorsed as having sole authority and responsibility for Rhodesia, Britain can do anything it likes—or anything Mr. Smith and his friends in Rhodesia and in Britain want the British Government to do.

This writer thinks it highly significant that Mr. Smith's attitude to a unilateral declaration of independence, in Mr. Wilson's words, 'seeks to convey the impression that they (the Rhodesian Government) and not Her Majesty's Government are the best judges of what action Her Majesty's Government would take in the event of a unilateral declaration' (Hansard, 30.4.65). One wonders whether Mr. Wilson really believes 'Her Majesty's Government' really decide what is to be done about the issues of the day—if, after nine months in office,

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DISCUSSES

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SCHOOL?

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he thinks he has the real power in the country, he needs to be seen by a psychiatrist. Why should Mr. Smith convey the impression that he knows what Wilson will do, if he doesn't have a rough idea of Wilson would be forced to do—at the point of a gun if needs be—in the event of UDI in Rhodesia?

Deeds, not words, will end the evil oligarchic rule in Rhodesia. I remember, recently in Rhodesia when discussing the situation with an African supporter of a nationalist movement, that we agreed that things would get worse before they got better. Since that time things have got worse in Rhodesia for the African people and the signs of better days are not forthcoming. Writing to me, from Gonakudzingwa last year, Mr. Chinamano said of the situation: 'I do hope that sooner or later sanity will prevail in our country and that this dark cloud will pass away.' But since that time the 'dark cloud' has become darker and heavier. That Rhodesia is gripped by a madness was also the view expressed to me by the editor of the *Daily News*, the paper banned last year by the Rhodesian Government. Early in his resignation Mr. Chinamano wrote to me that, 'I cannot believe that any government of sane people can banish me and my wife to this remote and unhealthy place under the pretext that we were involved in violence.'

This same Government has just restricted Mrs. Chinamano to a further five years restriction. It is a cruel act. One wonders if any Government is peopled by sane men, but in any case we know insanity needs treatment. It needs deeds and not words. You cannot talk with insane people, you can only treat them. No Government can or will treat the madness that grips Rhodesia and all southern Africa, it is the task of the people.

J.W.

Crime DOES Pay!

THERE IS NO DOUBT about it, the Establishment does look after its own. No sooner have we stopped grumbling about the politicians voting themselves a substantial increase in their salaries as soon as they get into power but those other fully-paid-up members of the Establishment—the Judges—are also awarded a whacking great increase in their pay.

Under a Government Bill to be published shortly it is expected that Judges' salaries will be increased by no less than twenty-five per cent! This means that the salary of the Lord Chief Justice will go up from £10,000 a year to £12,500, while the rank and file of the brotherhood—the High Court Judges and the Lords Justices of Appeal—will go up from £8,000 to £10,000, the Lords of Appeal and the Master of the Rolls from £9,000 to £11,250 and comparable increases right down the line to the absolute beginners who merely preside over quarter sessions. They will all get their quarter increase.

Even when they retire, their pensions will also be boosted by the same percentage. The Lord Chancellor, for example, will have a raise in his pension from £5,000 to £6,250. Old Age pensioners, please note.

To be fair to these hard-working chaps, it must be pointed out that they have not had an increase in pay since 1954. And we do want to be fair to them, don't we? So we must remember that while the cost of their Rolls-Royces and their wives' mink coats have steadily crept up over

Socialism Must be a Movement of the People

IT IS TYPICAL of the supposedly socialist intellectuals of England that the *New Statesman*, in its issue of July 2 should appoint itself to hold an inquest on 'The State of the Left'. The leading contributor to this parade of despair was Malcolm Muggeridge who traced the series of shattered hopes through which his generation had lived, the rise of the Labour Party from a band of idealistic pioneers to the government we have today, and the Bolshevik corruption of the Russian revolution. His captivating style makes these disappointments seem like the consequence of a tragic fate outside the control of mere mortals, until one begins to ask what were the socialists of Britain and, in particular, the *New Statesman* brand doing during that period, and were there really no alternatives?

During the inter-war years, the realistic moderates of that movement were behind the Labour Party, hoping to vote it into power and at the same time give it a socialist policy, and pouring scorn on the revolutionary minorities who didn't believe that the election to office of the Labour Party would make the slightest impression on the power structure of British society. In the thirties, despite the purges, despite (or perhaps because of) the Communist counter-revolutionary policy in Spain, the social-democratic left looked on Russia as the socialist fatherland. The anarchist movement was publishing factual accounts of the terrorism of the Cheka and the rise of the Communist Party bureaucracy in Russia from the '20's onwards, and the rest of the socialist movement didn't want to know. During the war the *New Statesman* told us to rally round and support capitalism because the capitalist states of the Allies were engaged in a war against fascism, and then socialism would fall into our laps after the war.

After the war it told us to join hands with America against the former socialist fatherland! All, of course, in a spirit of critical support, but support nevertheless, and at a time when minority movements, including the anarchist press, were pointing out that socialism would never be achieved as a result of compromise, political fiddling or following power-hungry leaders. We may therefore be forgiven for taking the air of inevitable doom purveyed by Muggeridge and the *New Statesman* with a pinch of salt, and putting the blame squarely on the shoulders of those very people whose policies sold out socialism to the hacks and careerists of the Communist and Labour Parties.

The words of 'The Red Flag', sung at every Labour Party conference, contain the assertion that the peoples' salvation can only come by their own hands, and not through the goodness of any messiah. But the tragedy of the Labour movement has been that it has constantly fallen victim to the easy belief that some dynamic party would take over the reins of government and put everything right, or that if things weren't so good in England, socialism had been achieved in some other country not very far away. What has failed during the last half century has not been socialism but the idea that it can be achieved through government. It would be more to the point if the *New Statesman* held an inquiry into 'The State of Government' and decided not to support that corrupt institution in the future, but to educate people to co-operate among themselves and do without it!

These reflections are relevant at the present time, when the Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference has had its annual meeting, when interest has been stimulated in foreign affairs by the international

have to be turned round in the same time. Judges will have to work harder and give longer sentences.

Our sources of information, which are usually impeccable, lead us to understand that Mr. Brown is arranging a dinner party for leaders of the crime industry to put the point of view of the Crime Workers' and Villains' Union. It is well known that the CW & VU is more favourable to a Government which does not interfere with free enterprise, but under its present responsible and patriotic leadership, it is felt that as long as rewards for the top men on both sides of the industry are comparable, agreement can be reached.

One CW & VU organiser, who asked to be allowed to remain anonymous, is said to have expressed full confidence in the ability of the leadership to enforce discipline on the rank and file. 'Some of our chaps,' he quipped, 'are a bit Bolshie, but they are nearly all Englishmen at heart. When we have explained to them—in our own language—that they would be well advised to accept these longer sentences, we are confident they will see it our way.'

From the Judges' point of view, it is said that they are more than happy with the present steady increase in crime. One bewigged spokesman was reported as saying that the industry has never been healthier nor have prospects been brighter. 'I think we can safely say,' he said, 'that the future of our industry is secure for as far ahead as we can see. The young people of today are the salt of the earth and we who will eventually hand over to them the running of this great enterprise are confident that whichever side of the court they play from there are good pickings to be made for all. Never let it be said that crime does not pay!'

power struggle taking place at the expense of the people of Vietnam, with China and Russia jockeying for influence throughout Africa and as far as names are concerned, everyone is a socialist now.

Everyone will agree that there is a certain determinism in history, in that a society cannot change overnight from one system to another one chosen at will. But one of the bad influences of the materialist approach to history is that the perversions of socialism that have appeared in 'liberated' countries have been welcomed by many sincere people who should know better, as being inevitable and even desirable.

Thus the socialist movement wastes its time taking up positions in support of one or other of China or Russia, of providing excuses to bourgeois opinion for the newly emerged dictators of Africa and the bloodthirsty demagogues of the Arab states. At the same time socialist opinion, being committed to the idea of government, has to support some government, and for instance on the Vietnam question this seems a distinct handicap since the mass of people who are disgusted by American bombing are unlikely to be rallied by admiration of the totalitarian government in Hanoi.

Socialism can only be a movement of the people themselves for their own liberation, and today's communist manifesto should declare that the people and the state can have no interest in common. The state has been on the attack for too long. Isn't it time the people took the initiative? P.H.

Do-it-Yourself Schooling

ABOUT A YEAR ago, most of what had been Ilford YCND re-formed as a Committee of 100 Working Group. Most of us—we number about twenty—are anarchists, and all are truly libertarians. By the autumn (after the anti-Civil Defence campaign we were conducting was temporarily adjourned with three arrests for breaking into the local CD office and a total of £350 in fines to pay), we had decided to diversify our activities. After an anti-election campaign with slogan writing, fly posting, leafletting and public meetings we transferred our attention to what we consider the rotten foundations of the State's crumbling edifice—education.

Education today is little more than the indoctrination and brain-washing stage of producing a conforming, unthinking and unquestioning population of robots. With this in mind we produced a rather rough duplicated leaflet and, in January, distributed in desks at a local grammar school, Barking Abbey. They were discovered, however, but we received a good amount of publicity locally.

Special Branch was called in but were incapable of fathoming the mystery of why anyone should want to protest in such a way. According to the local press we were nihilist nazis indoctrinating communism. For a time our attempts to get into other schools were foiled, usually by alert caretakers, and we used the time to produce a more comprehensible and readable leaflet. Again we distributed them at Barking Abbey and caused something of a local stir with the publicity it produced—this time more accurate, though still badly reported.

We disclosed that we were intensifying our campaign, and in the presence of

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A FIVE DAY fast outside the entrance of the Polaris base, began the programme of the Faslane demonstration. Ten people took part in this, during which their tents were flattened by two days and nights of driving wind and rain. Leaflets were distributed to workmen inviting them to a Film Show of the Factory For Peace, where an offer of one job, at the Factory would be put to the workmen present. Several workmen asked for badges and anti-war literature, and at one stage 40 or so of them started singing 'We shall overcome', from their side of the wire. It was felt that the fast communicated the aims of the anti-war movement to the workmen, but the offer of work at the Factory was not taken up mainly for economic reasons. Several men who asked for details of this, when told of the wages being offered, remarked that they gave that amount to their wives for housekeeping. The labourers at Faslane earn big money, between £30 and £40 a week. If the Factory could have offered that kind of money, Faslane would have one less war worker.

On the last day of the fast, the Factory van complete with loud hailer and leaflets, toured Faslane advertising the evening's Film Show and offer of work. At Glen Douglas and Couplart, the van drove straight into the sites, to the surprise of the office staff, and construction workers. Valuable dialogue took place, and though no Polaris workers were in evidence at the Film Show, the grass roots contact which preceded this was well worth the effort involved.

During the fast a team of people took part in constructive service at Helensburgh, the town adjacent to Faslane. A section of the beach from Rhu to Helensburgh was cleared of driftwood and rubbish, and the local council provided a lorry to cart it away. This action was publicised well, with leaflets and posters, one of which said 'Committee of 100, voluntary service'. Beneath this was painted a large arrow pointing to the Polaris base, and printed in large letters: 'Faslane another mess to be cleaned up'.

The final positive objective of the Faslane programme, was the production of a technically feasible plan for the conversion of Faslane into an International Oil Terminal. Created by the joint efforts of Alan Parker, Harry Pyle, MSC, AMIME, and Kenneth Horsburgh, BSc. (Econs), the plan has been submitted to a large press conference in Glasgow, and to the Government and Trade Union bodies, for examination and hopeful adoption, as a real contribution to International Co-operation Year.

On the morning of June 26, a small group of less than 100 people assembled at Craigendoran, to march one mile to Helensburgh, for a public meeting, and from there to Faslane for the demonstration. The thin band of demonstrators, coupled with a high wind and rain blowing in from the Gareloch, did not make for high morale, but by the time the march reached Helensburgh, the sun was shining, and the march had grown to over 300. The flags were flying when the march arrived, but not in our honour. Apparently the Queen was due to visit the town the following day. Police attempted to make the march halt at several places isolated from the public. The march had its own plans though,

London Anarchist Group 1 & 2

'Lamb and Flag', Rose Street, off Garrick Street, London, W.C.2. (Leicester Square tube) 7.45 p.m. All welcome. Sundays.

July 11 Frank Hirshfield

(Co-ordinating Secretary of Anarchist Federation)

The Anarchist Movement: Some Reflections

July 18 Several Speakers

Homage to Catalonia

July 25 Jack Robinson

Pacifism and Anarchism

Aug. 1 'Whisper and Shout'

(An evening of poetry. Details from Dennis Gould, c/o Freedom Press.)

Public Meetings every Sunday Hyde Park 3 p.m. Correspondence to J. Retey, 10 Gilbert Place, W.C.1.

NOTING HILL ANARCHIST GROUP.

Secretary N.H.A.G., Flat 3, 5 Colville House, London, W.11. Meetings 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at above address.

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rum-bold Rd., S.W.6 (off King's Rd.), 8 p.m.

Last Thursday in month: At George Hayes', 174 McLeod Road, S.E.2.

2nd Friday at Brian Leslie's, 242 Ames-

FASLANE REPORT

and filed on to a grass verge in the centre of the town. Peter Cadogan and Bill Hetherington spoke on the relevance of the political situation to Faslane, and the aims of the Committee and, despite Helensburgh being a Tory stronghold, interest was shown from passersby. Final speakers were Alan Parker (describing in detail, the Oil Terminal plan), and myself (on the general objectives of the action). The meeting dispersed for a short lunch break, and reassembled at 2 o'clock, to march 5 miles to Faslane.

Work on the base had come to a virtual standstill as the march passed the objective of the action, the £10,000,000 Polaris Training School, where over 400 police, spaced 10 yards apart, waited. The march reached the northern end of the base, and turned up a section of partially completed by-pass road which overlooked Faslane, and the original route of the march. Finally we reached a point which looked directly down to

the Polaris Training School. At this stage, a picket with eight-foot high vigil banners, organised by Campaign Caravan took place, while the main body of marchers filtered through a thin cordon of police, over a construction site, and down a muddy hill towards the Training School. Police attempted to intercept demonstrators as they walked and ran down the hillside. They were outnumbered though, and many people who were taken into custody, found themselves free to proceed, as their 'Policeman's' attention had been diverted by someone else.

Thirty-eight of us were arrested and taken to a temporary police station at Faslane, where we were charged, photographed, and fingerprinted. A solidarity sit-down took place outside the station, and the 20 or so people involved were soon dragged inside to join us. A special court in Dumbarton was set up, and hearings began at 9 p.m. Twenty-eight of those arrested pleaded not guilty to

charges of a breach of the peace, and were fined a total of £165. Some of the arrests were undoubtedly selective, and considerable violence was used by the police. Two men, Allan Lawson and Alan Parker, were charged with assaulting the police, the charge against Allan Lawson I know to be fictitious, as we were arrested together, and the only force used was by one enthusiastic copper. The cases have been adjourned till a later date.

The formula for the Faslane demonstration, was an attempt to offer positive objectives within a direct action framework, as no movement can develop on protest alone. The lack of arrests at Faslane was a clean break from the non-violent suicides of some past actions and attitudes. Committee history has shown that mass arrest will not halt the death wish of the 'Warfare' state, and underlying the symbolic objective of preventing work from taking place at Faslane, was an urgent need to take a non-violent stab at the smokescreen which shrouds the state's preparations for war. This was done at Faslane with few casualties, we hope that future actions will result in less.

MARK NEWNS.

ROUND THE GALLERIES

FOR THE seventh exhibition of Russian art Eric Estorick has given his Grosvenor Gallery, at 28 Davies Street, W.1, over to a display of seventy paintings by Oskar Rabin. Thirty-seven years of age, and with the air of a harassed clerk, this Russian painter has achieved whatever pinnacle the Russian Establishment can offer, and a Rabin painting is now a 'special souvenir' for the visiting firemen from the 'free world'. It would be unkind to assess Rabin's work by the squeals of his cult-happy admirers but when a critic, as perspicacious as Terence Mullaly of the *Telegraph*, refers to an adult of 37 as a 'young painter', and ties with words Rabin's paintings to the work of Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky, one feels justified in dismissing both critic and painter, one for his prostitution of analogies and the other for his pretension.

To pace around this sleek gallery is to drift back forty years or more to the London world of the Beggarstaff posters, the Lyric Theatre playbills and the heavy handed omnibus posters, the world of comic cats with elongated necks and human grins, and the staggering buildings fixed to the canvas by the broad black outlines of the artist's brush. In almost every one of these works there is the air of the fair-ground comic postcard and one feels that their chief virtue for the western critic lies in the fact that they act as vehicles of critical patronage.

Rabin claims that he knows little of the work of contemporary artists, yet, as a professional advertisement and exhibition designer, he has (he admits) 'seen countless pictures of London, Paris and New York, and here is his comic version painted strictly for the squares.

In 1963 he painted 'Russian Pop Art', without seemingly being even aware of the elementary lessons of western Pop

art. For western Pop art was the deliberate marriage of two alien cultures upon a single canvas. Despite its many faults it succeeded in breaking a class barrier by the sheer crude nakedness of its proletarian imagery. The Pop art painters flooded their canvases with the raw and ephemeral graffiti of working class area hoardings, and their rough and brutal draftsmanship, and blatant contempt for academic colour schemes, made their work as powerful as a political pamphlet and just as valueless after the moment of protest.

Rabin is unaware of this element of crude and raucous hooliganism that was the virtue of western Pop art, and he offers a naive trompe-l'oeil of a Moccobckar vodka (40%) advert prettily painted to fill a canvas, yea even to the Comic Cuts Moonlight Moggy cat. In 1962 Rabin painted the canvas 'Moscow Priests', and upon this background of four robed priests competently painted in the traditional manner, Rabin has smeared a smattering of thick brush paint strokes. In theory this should have achieved one or other of two effects; either it should have given the effect of a flaking wall or Rabin's raw paint should have dribbled like spittle upon the robes of the priests, but in spite, or because of, the innocence or incompetence of the artist it is the priests in the background that command the eye, and the gauche cringing fashionable foreground that sinks into insignificance.

If Rabin can be damned with a phrase, it is that he amuses, for he offers the world a shallow and a superficial view of Russia and her people, and perhaps for that reason his work is sought as 'special souvenirs' by the passing entrepreneurs bored with western cultures. But even the western world of W.1 is a little sick for the old nostalgic days of the pipe and drum, corsets and beer at a penny a pint and the Café Royal has

thrown open its doors if not to the artists at least the arts.

This can be one of those rare occasions when the ragged-arse poet, painter and writer can tread these historic ridden floors, without fear that Charlie Forte will order your collar felt for the bums rush, and for a brief while the cultural peasantry can breathe this expensive air and view the work of those who gave the OLD CAFE ROYAL its reputation. A quiet green landscape from the dead hand of Mark Gertler who deliberately rejected a life he could no longer accept, a pastel by Gaudier-Brzeska, the friend of Ezra Pound, who died for nothing in our first trinity of holy wars, and some slight and graceful work by Nina Hamnett (a gay butterfly creature whose only political act lay in that she and her autobiography were denounced by a po-faced speaker on an SPGB platform as a mark of capitalistic decay, Nina and Hitler and good old Joe). You can dine for thirty shillings at 'The Charge of the Light Brigade' with clean sawdust on the floor, cross Brook Street to buy a crest police truncheon for five pounds a bash, or trail along Brook Street to number 56 to peer into the new Alwin Gallery (so oddly lit that it has the air of a hygienic coal mine) with its each painting individually spotlighted in the darkness until they hang like drying photographic transparencies. Yet still the echoes of the past are with us with these dying weeks, for the Portal Gallery, at 16a Grafton Street, W.1, offers the coup de grace with the work of Peter Le Vasseur. With a primitive humour, Le Vasseur has gathered the pop people of our time and garbed them in the costumes of any age that suited his mood and, with a meticulous attention to detail, he has produced a series of surrealistic paintings of a gentle and undisturbing charm as 'acquired by... The Duke of Bedford and Mr. Ringo Starr'. Mr. Starr is the wrestler. And the Duke? He's the man who bought a painting by Peter Le Vasseur.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

ANARCHIST FEDERATION OF BRITAIN

Co-ordinating Secretary: Frank Hirshfield, 4 Albert St. London, N.W.1.

REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Details of meetings from Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, B'ham, 23.

BRISTOL FEDERATION. Enquiries to John Coveney, 12 Normanton Road, Clifton, Bristol, 8.

CAMBRIDGE ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact V. Madge, Newnham College.

DUNDEE GROUP. Contact Mike Mallet, 20 South George Street, Dundee. Meetings Saturdays 2.30 p.m.

EDINBURGH ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Douglas Truman, 13 Northumberland Street.

GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence: Bobby Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1.

bury Avenue, S.W.2 (Streatham Hill, Nr. Station).

3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald & Irene Room's, 148a Fellows Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3.

First and third Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m. Arthur Uloth's, 30 Arundel Gardens, W.11. (Top bell.)

Meetings at Horseshoe Bar, Drury Street, Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

MANCHESTER & SALFORD ANARCHIST GROUP. For information contact c/o 4 Ouse St., Weaste, Salford 5, Lancs. Open air meetings Sundays at Old Shambles, Victoria St. at 8 p.m. FREEDOM selling Saturday afternoon, Central Library.

OFF-CENTRE DISCUSSION GROUP. Every Wednesday at Jack Geraghty's, 8 York Road, Manchester, 21.

MERSEYSIDE FEDERATION. Enquiries: Barbara Renshaw, 4 Clarence Road, Devonshire Park, Birkenhead, Cheshire.

ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 2316. Brian and Maureen Richardson.

OXFORD ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact H. G. Mellor, Merton College, Oxford.

SURREY ANARCHISTS are invited to meetings on the first Thursday of every month at Chris Torrance's (63 North Street, Carshalton, Surrey—please ring three times) and on the 3rd Thursday of every month at M. Dykes, 8 Court Drive, Sutton, Surrey. Both meetings 7.30 p.m.

SOUTHALL ANARCHIST GROUP. Get in touch with Roger Sandell, 58 Burns Avenue, Southall, Middlesex.

PROPOSED GROUPS

NORTHOLT ANARCHISTS. Projected formation of group contact Jim Huggon, 173 Kingshill Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex or Miss Jean McLean, 6 Epsom Close, Northolt Park, Middlesex.

BARNET, HERTS. Libertarian action in the new London Borough of Barnet. Discussion at Tony Frewin's, 31 Burghley Avenue, Boreham Wood, Herts., 3 p.m., Saturday, June 26.

SOUTH BEDS., NORTH HERTS., HITCHIN, LETCHWORTH, BIGGLESWADE, BEDFORD. Anyone interested forming a group contact Peter and Maureen Ford, 102 Stotfold Road, Arlesey, Beds.

NORTH-WEST ESSEX. Close to W. Suffolk, S.E. Cambs. and N.E. Herts. Contact Robert Barltrop, The Old Vicarage, Radwinter, near Saffron Walden.

HULL & YORKSHIRE (East Riding). Anyone interested in forming anarchist group contact R. A. Baker, 6 The Oval, Chestnut Avenue, Willerby, E. Yorks. Phone: Hull 58543.

SUNDERLAND (Co. Durham). Proposed Anarchist Discussion Group. (Syndicalists welcome) at Geoff. Edwards, 'Side House', St. George's Terrace, Roker, Sunderland, Co. Durham.

★ LETTERS ★

Any Witnesses?

Did any participant or bystander in the Faslane demonstration on June 26 witness the series of events following the arrest of Mark News, Field Organizer (black PVC coat) behind the tennis courts, with particular reference to the incident occurring at the security fence when I (age 21, fawn Gannex coat, beard) attempted to prevent police violence by sitting in front of the policemen manhandling Mr. News? If so, would you please contact me immediately as I am to be charged with assault on police at the hearing at Dumbarton on August 3.

This is a false charge, but we require witnesses and photographs of the events, so that certain policemen may have the 'Challenger' lesson re-stated. Help Mark and I clear our names and that of the Committee in this attempt at a perversion of justice.

Yours faithfully,
ALLAN M. LOWSON.

Bourgeois Despair

Comrade Editor,
Jack Robinson's appraisal of the Vietnam situation 'Stop the Escalator—I want to get off!' is a travesty of reporting. He apparently subscribes to the bourgeois propaganda that Vietnam is another Spain, a power-struggle cockpit of the sixties. His final ridiculous 'a plague upon both houses of right and left' seems typical of current anarchist reaction to the struggles of the people of the world in the face of bourgeois repression.

How would he have reacted (or did react) to the situation in Europe, 1940-1945, when the people organised resistance and guerilla warfare against the Nazi German invaders? As an 'atrocities'?

It is true the 'liberal left' and the pacifists have only just woken up and are mounting the June 30 lobby. The Yanks will still be bombing, blasting and burning when this is just history.

Society is eternal motion; it does not have to be wound up; and it is not necessary to beat time for it. It carries its own pendulum and its ever wound-up spring within it. An organized society needs laws as little as legislators. Laws are to society what cobwebs are to a beehive; they only serve to catch the bees.

P. J. PROUDHON.

LAG/2: PROGRESS REPORT

AT a large meeting of LAG 2 on Sunday, July 4, several new comrades associated themselves with the group. John Retz, who gave the secretary's report for the month, indicated the Hyde Park Meetings are going well and about 100 FREEDOMS an issue are being sold. It was also agreed that other libertarian material should be on display.

No progress has been made on obtaining premises but the group will continue looking.

Various reports on Edgware-Elstree group activities, Committee of 100 and YCND were discussed and it was agreed

The Vietnamese people will still be fighting, being murdered, and struggling to throw out American occupation forces, without aid from Russia or China—until the Yanks start the next 'Korea' (which won't be long now) by extending their invasion to North Vietnam. Would Jack Robinson still prefer the plague to descend on the left then and let America go on and on, as did Hitler in the 30's, unopposed in treating 'the whole globe as a "free world" over which they can ride roughshod, with every right to do whatever it pleases wherever its "strength" can reach, no matter in which countries' territory, ground, air or sea, or in whose courtyards and bedrooms.'

With cynical insinuation he at one swoop dispenses with the action of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation—'Vietcong' to Robinson who again subscribes to (a name originated by) Western bourgeois propaganda organs—it is obvious that the people of Vietnam are suffering and will continue to suffer whoever becomes their master.'

Let's just wash our hands of the whole sickening affair and a plague upon both your houses is his bourgeois inspired despairing-philosophy implication. Fraternally,

London, SE4 B. J. CLIFTON.

Stalinalee-Socialists or Nazis?

Dear Comrades,
There are some points in Bill Jamieson's article 'Where is Stalinalee?' which I cannot but regard as offspring of wish rather than products of historical accuracy; let me hasten to give a more earthen image of that 'revolt', before it gets a place in the shrine of anarchist history, where it really doesn't belong.

Don't let us forget that, throughout the Nazi regime, millions of workers were quite on the side of Führer and Fatherland, as long as at least as the former did not turn the latter into one big ashcan. As still today in West Germany, there must have been also, in the Worker's Paradise, thousands and thousands of upright proletarians who would have liked nothing better than a revival of those Golden Times, when a super-paranoiac, with the help of all other paranoiacs, ruled over the intelligent and sane rest of the Nation (in the autumn of 1933: 10% in a relatively uncontrolled election).

For fascism is always a triumph of anti-intelligence; and, mind you, there's no difference between a brute and idiotic working-man and a brute and idiotic professor (as there is not, if both are sane and kind). As for the myth of 'working class upheavals', 'working-class achievements' and so forth, I don't give a bloody damn for any of them, as long as they are not socialist, or rather anarchist. How many workers voted Tory or, indeed, fascist?

The strikes of June 1953 were not socialist at all, let alone anarchistic

by everyone to support Porton demo on September 11 with as many taking part as possible, if the demo was to be successful.

It was also agreed that a minimum of half-an-hour prior to the Sunday meetings at the 'Lamb and Flag' would be devoted to business.

We were also fortunate to hear a visiting student from the Berkeley Free Speech Movement give a short talk on the situation and how it appears to be developing. He also called on all English students to support the Berkeley movement by sympathy demonstrations in this country.

'M.Ps to get Resolution from Sheep Society'

—Scotsman

NO FIRE OR brimstone rained from high on the British although a Gomorrhian orgy was staged at Covent Garden, a Sodomite ball (for members only) at Sloane Square, and the Archbishop of Canterbury gave it as his opinion that it is difficult to say whether 'there is a big moral distinction between anal intercourse and oral intercourse'. However, holding a watching brief for God, Viscount Montgomery speaking on the same subject (in the Lords debate on the private Bill to make homosexual acts between consenting adults no longer an offence) said that the age of consent should be eighty. 'After the age of eighty it does not really matter what you do. I myself am rising 78. The great thing is that at the age of eighty at least you have an old age pension to pay for any blackmail. I regard the action of homosexuality in any form as the most abominable bestiality that any human being can take part in.'

FIRE AND MODERN improvements of brimstone rained on the inhabitants of Vietnam. A court martial in Okinawa dismissed a Lieutenant from the Army for refusing to join a counter-guerilla unit in South Vietnam. He said he had refused because he disagreed with American policy in Vietnam. He did not think the Vietnamese war was 'worth one American life'. It was reported that after a bomb explosion in a riverside restaurant ambulance men were heard shouting, 'Where are the Americans? Let's get the Americans out.'

MR. WILSON'S peace-mission was rejected partly, it was said, because the appeal went to the wrong address. Mr. Wilson refused to allow Mr. Michael Stewart, Foreign Secretary, to stand for the Labour Party National Executive—where

he failed to get elected last year—because of pressure of duties, says Mr. Wilson; in case he is defeated again, say his opponents. Fulham Labour Party is very disappointed. CND supporters are reported to be considering putting up a candidate against Mr. Stewart at Fulham.

A POLICE CONSTABLE whose picture appears on recruiting posters for the Force has decided to leave. He said, 'I have been offered a job with better long-term prospects.' A team of courtesy policemen toured schools in Kansas City, Missouri, and advised schoolchildren to wave at policemen on the beat. 'He is your friend and will wave back.' The children tried it but the policemen didn't wave. The children complained to the police chief who issued orders to wave. The policemen now wave. A policeman in Los Angeles, commander of the local vice squad, was investigating the alleged rape of his daughter, when a suspect was brought in for questioning, the policeman drew his gun and shot the youth three times, he is now critically ill in hospital. The police later eliminated the youth as a suspect on the rape charge. An Ealing policeman was sentenced to two years imprisonment for conspiring to rob a dance-hall manager.

A SALISBURY (RHODESIA) policeman was charged with murdering an African in a police cell. Doctors told the court that Alexander Mashawira (22) had extensive internal bleeding of the back muscles, apparently caused by beating with a smooth round instrument like a police baton. The Home Secretary declined to interfere with the entry into Britain of Det.-Con. A. J. de Koker of the Cape Town police. Mr. David Enns of the Anti-Apartheid Movement claimed that

he had been sent by the security police to enquire into the Anti-Apartheid Movement's links with people inside South Africa. A South African Embassy spokesman said that the visit was entirely unofficial. Mr. de Koker was on holiday, paying his own fare, and wished to make unofficial courtesy visits on British detectives.

DETECTIVES RAIDED the *Rand Daily Mail* and seized documents describing prison conditions in South Africa. The degradation of prisoners had been described in two instalments. Mr. Lawrence Gardner, the editor, said he had every intention of publishing the third instalment dealing with assaults on prisoners.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL for Civil Liberty reports that in Britain 35,000 people in 1962 were detained in prison because bail was refused and of them 18,500 were returned to prison after trial and 3,500 were actually acquitted of the charges, thus having served periods of detention while innocent of any crime.

SIR FRANK SOSKICE, Home Secretary, has told the police they can call on the 130-strong police mobile training squad to break up riots. The squad was originally set up to assist with Civil Defence.

SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS in an A-level examination were 'leaked' and precautions had to be taken to prevent cheating.

CARDINAL HEENAN warned church workers against using 'gimmicks', in a speech at 'Challenge 65' a Roman Catholic vocations exhibition. This was run by a Public Relations firm. One of the slogans for nuns is 'A career with Christ.'
JON QUIXOTE.

in any way. Or are the demands for less work, free elections (!), German unification (!!) very socialist? Mind you, they are not. Anybody who has seen or heard the masses burning red flags and waving the national one, singing—oh no, not the International or the old German socialist song 'Brothers, to Sun, to Freedom', but the chauvinist anthem 'Germany, Germany over all' can't have a good feeling about what we would have had to expect if these enraged national-socialists had, with the help of the Americans, taken over.

Don't let us get so romantic, Comrades. In any anarchist-run industrial community there would also have to be plans. And they wouldn't have to make provision for 'Humanity: for failure, weakness, anger, joy, sorrow, laughter', as Bill Jamieson gets excited. That's just not the job of a plan. If people don't behave 'human', I can't help them, nor can any plan. If they just won't laugh, should there be dirty jokes in the plan? It's up to the blokes themselves to make work a bit 'human'. I have been in East Berlin even after 1961 and I can assure Comrade Bill, I have seen people laughing, singing, kissing just as anywhere else, maybe more, because they don't have to care about high rents, snakes in the bathroom, rising butter prices and no job (and who really does get excited about whether the government is on the line of right or left-centre marxism except some blokes who've got nothing else to do?).

After all, I regret that the upheaval of 1953 didn't turn into a more socialist revolution, but I am glad at the thought that I didn't fall into the hands of the bastards who turned a simple building strike into a nationalist frenzy, ain't I an egotist?

Yours fraternally,
JÖRG CHRISTIAN FAUSER.
Frankfurt am Main, 20.6.65.

PS Would Comrade Jamieson explain me some day what he means with a 'Living like human beings'? I thought

we all did live like them, not like birds; have the East Germans lived like rats? Where is to draw the line, then?

No-one Else's Damn Business!

Dear Sir,
I would like to have a minor niggles with 'P.S.' who wrote the article on Homosexuality ('Abolish the "Homosexuality" Law'). At one point P.S. compares repression and punishment of homosexuals with racial discrimination. They are similar he says, because in each case people are being punished for what they can't help. True enough. I would just like to emphasize that tolerance of freely consenting adult male homosexuals ought not to be based on the fact that homosexuals 'can't help it'. That is irrelevant. The basis of the tolerance should be the same as the basis for tolerating cunnilinctus or fellatio between 'normal' adults—it hurts no one and it's no one else's damn business.

Yours faithfully,
Kirkby Mallory PATRICIA CAMERON.
22.6.65

Comment by P.S.:
I do of course agree. Space limitations prevent us dealing exhaustively with every topic every time.

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WEEKS 25 & 26, JULY 3, 1965:	
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Income: Sales and Subs.:	£1651
	DEFICIT £169

Wolverhampton: J.K.W.* 2/-; J.L.* 3/-;	
Isleworth: L.W. 4/-; San Francisco: E.D. £1 8s.; Reading: B.M. 3/11; Surrey: F.B.* 5/-; Cheltenham: L.G.W.* 10/-; London, W.C.1: M.C.-B. £5 10s.; Texas: H.B. £2 2s.; Idaho: J.M. 19/6; London, W.2: S.P. 2/-; London, N.W.2: D.S. 9/-;	
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LIBERTARIAN YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

THIS YEAR'S CAMP will be at Aiguilles-en-Queyras (Haute Alpes), close to the Italian Border. The camp site is situated approximately halfway along the road between Aiguilles and Abriès. ROUTES: Train to Gare de Montdauphin (via Paris-Briançon), with a connection by coach to Abriès. ROAD: Route Nationale 202 to L'Esteyre then No. 547 for 10 km. We have only been sent one prospectus. We shall duplicate some and send them to people who want further details if they enclose stamped and addressed envelope.

Contact Column

Accommodation Wanted. Young man, ex-freedom-school pupil would like bedsitter with cooking facilities or full board, or share flat with one or two others, South London area, before end of July. Please phone: STReatham 6085.

Birmingham Group to Libertarian Camp. We propose renting a Minibus to the Summer Camp, estimated cost £20 a head (eight people), plus food and personal expenses. Anyone interested reply as soon as possible (also state age, sex, driving licence—clean preferred). Must pay before leaving. May rent two buses. Either middle weeks or last two weeks of August. Peter Neville, 12 South Grove, Erdington, Birmingham 23.

Letter Exchange. Correspondent needed on theory and practice of anarchism relevant to present-day America and the student new left. Bob Stone, 106 Queen's Court, San Antonio, Texas, USA.

Vietnam Posters. 'Who Loses in Vietnam—Always the People'. 4d. each. 30/- per 100. Orders to Freedom Press.

Help Needed. To sell anarchist literature outside Bromley library. From 11.30 a.m. every Saturday morning.

Room Wanted—London. Shift worker would like room with mod. cons. South, or West Kensington. Box 11.

SOS. George King please contact Sid Frisby, 212 Herbert Road, London, SE18.

North Africa. For four weeks in August by Minibus. £25 basic plus £15. Four-eight sets spare. Write Christine Segalini, Coleg Harlech, Harlech, Merioneth, Wales, or phone Harlech 271.

Fifteen-Year-Old Comrade from Paris wants to stay with family (including someone of similar age) for the month of August. Write Box 12.

Anyone interested in a camping holiday in North Wales, July 10-24, contact S. E. Parker, 2 Orsett Terrace, London, W.2.

Leicester Accommodation. Unfurnished cheap weather-proof accommodation wanted by mature (?) student, wife and two children. Any proposals (sharing, etc.) considered. Mike Radford, 90 Westfield, Harlow, Essex.

L.A.G. Two. Barn / Studio / Basement wanted to house meeting place, library, etc. for LAG II. Suggestions, ideas, details and details of rent required to J. Retz, 10 Gilbert Place, W.C.1.

London Accommodation. Couple and son (two years) seek 2/3 unfurnished rooms, North London. Box 8.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

Jag Dispute

THE FOUR AND HALF WEEK dispute at Jaguar Cars Coventry ended on 2.7.65. The management have been making a stand on what they claim to be a principle: 'No negotiations with unofficial strikers.'

The dispute was started by 86 polishers whose job it is to polish door frames, for which they are paid piece work rates. On this occasion their work was rejected by an inspector, who stated there were dents in the frames and these should be flattened out by the polishers before their work could be passed. The polishers claim they are paid piece work rates for polishing frames not hammering out dents as well.

To people not acquainted with piece work, this affair may sound like a lot of bother over nothing. If one thinks about it for a moment, if dents have to be evened out plus polishing, less door frames will be completed, less money earned. Rather a crude attempt at cutting costs. In any case a stroke like

this could be the thin edge of the wedge, iron out dents, whitewash walls, clean windows in your spare time so to speak. Obviously 86 members of the National Society of Metal Mechanics (NSMM) were suspicious, so they downed tools.

As a result of the polishers going into dispute, many members in the plant had to be laid off. Some were called back to do a sub-contracting job, these men fearing they may be out. 150 NSMM members at the Radford factory also walked out in sympathy.

Attempts were made by the joint executive of shop stewards from Jaguar factories to find a return to work formula. The management refused to meet the stewards on the grounds 'no talks with unofficial strikers'. The Coventry district organiser of the NSMM tried to use the conciliation machinery of the Ministry of Labour, but Jaguar management refused to attend.

National officials of the NSMM came under pressure from other unions whose members had been

laid off. It was quite on the cards that at one stage the strike would be declared 'official', but even if it had, the employers subscribe to the point of view that 'a union cannot suddenly make a strike "official" because it would encourage unofficial strikes'.

A further attempt was made to use the Ministry of Labour, this time by the national officers of NSMM. The employers replied, 'No talks until a return to work'. Frank Briggs, general secretary of NSMM, is quoted as saying 'Never in 30 years of union negotiations have I had a company reject such an overture on a return to work. We must safeguard our members against possible victimization.' Finally a return to work formula was found by the Ministry of Labour. Work is to be resumed on the basis of an examination of the facts of the dispute with the object of getting the matter back into procedure. Also the two union members who originally refused to do the extra work on the doors should be available for consultation at the meeting between management and union.

Jaguar management will probably claim this return to work formula as a victory, and the upholding of their principle: 'No negotiations with unofficial strikers'. But in point of fact it will only be their victory if the metal mechanics continue to do extra work on the same piece work rates.

There comes a time when workers can 'chat' no more, and they simply say, 'We ain't doing it', and all the management principles in the world won't get production going until the workers say OK.

B.C.

TWO DIFFERENT STARTING TIMES?

ON THURSDAY evening, after work, we waited in the yard to hear what had come of a meeting between the management and our union representatives. This was to discuss the hours to be worked when the new package deal for the electrical industry (40 hour week instead of 42) starts on Monday.

The shop steward arrived and told us that the meeting had ended with the workers' representatives walking out; that agreement had not been reached and that the union was instructing its members to work different hours to the management.

So after months and months of argument, talk, discussion and gossip about what would happen we now find that: (a) A semi-skilled man will be earning approximately £4 less a week than a labourer (this is due to overtime being cut). (b) That after all this time we still don't know where we stand. (c) That the board will give the orders and we are expected to just obey, without even being told what they are in a decent civilised manner (being given the information one day before the new scheduled hours are due to start). (d) That we are bound by agreement which we have never made and to which the ETU refused to give their consent in the first place. (e) Finally and most important from the point of view of work, we find that we are expected to do the same amount of work in the shorter number of hours.

A NATION OF HYPOCRITES

In conversation the steward explained that he is in a very difficult position (due to lack of power) because he must agree with the governor when he says that: (a) He wants more productivity. (b) That he is running a business and has to make a profit. (c) That he is the governor and we are just workers (though this is always said in a veiled way).

This is the position that every shop steward finds himself occupying during discussions with management officials on every occasion. Because this, my friends, is the way of the world. There must be rulers and ruled or god knows what would happen.

We must pretend that all proposals that we make are for the industry as a whole. For the good of the enterprise, for co-operation between workers and management, for the public good, for anything other than the truth, which is that we want to get more for less and they want to give less for more. Because if we said this there would be no way of discussing things in the English spirit of compromise. That spirit which gives us a government which is always conservative no matter what the name is on the top of its election manifesto. A socialist government that is a monarchist government, or a conservative government that believes in a national health scheme. Probably a communist government, if it was English, would first swear an oath of allegiance to the Queen before taking office.

On Friday evening we saw on the firm's

notice board that the hours on Monday were 08.30 to 17.30. The union has instructed its members that they should start at 08.00 and finish at 17.00. We believe that either the board is determined to wreck the whole deal by precipitating a strike, or that they want to change our hours from a normal day to split shifts. They will do this by making us start after most people have left for work at 08.30. Making it impossible for us to get them in, so that they could then try to get us on working early in the morning AND late at night. They would say that we were bringing back too many 'outs', and we would have to go on the new schedule to eliminate this.

WE'LL BE THERE FOR BREAKFAST

On Monday evening we will turn up at the yard at 16.45 having completed our day's work. We have been told (unofficially) that the board will stop us half an hour in spite of the fact that we will start at eight.

E. E. B., Meter Reader.

DO-IT-YOURSELF SCHOOLING

Continued from page 1

press, photographers and a radio reporter distributed them outside the gates of the Ilford County High about a fortnight ago. The Headmaster urged his pupils not to accept them, but in vain as they did exactly the opposite. One kid ran round shouting 'The Revolution's coming', while others asked more about the group and its aims. On BBC South-East news that evening the main feature was an interview with one of the group and another with the County High's headmaster.

The following Tuesday we employed the same tactics at Ilford's third big grammar school—Beal, and the next Thursday at South East Essex Technical School and Barking Abbey again. Once again we were confronted with arm-

Freedom

For Workers' Control

JULY 10 1965 Vol. 26 No. 21

Same Old Merry-go-Round

PROVINCIAL BUSMEN have started on the long weary road to a wage increase. The T & GWU national passenger committee has called for a narrowing of the differential in pay between provincial and London Transport busmen.

Provincial busmen received 15/- a week increase in February after a series of Saturday stoppages, an overtime ban and, finally, arbitration. Usually municipal and provincial busmen receive their increase at the same time. On this occasion the provinces had to fight like hell and received it months later with *No Retrospective Payment*.

The T & GWU endorsed the wage

claim in July 1964. Forty-four weeks later part of the claim was met—'No Retrospective Payment'.

At the time of their previous wage settlement, the index of retail prices stood at 104.2. When the final 15/- award was made the index stood at 112—representing a rise of 7.5%. Thus, the purchasing power of the average weekly rostered earnings fell by 25/6—and every provincial busman and woman was 10/6 worse off as a result of the 'victory' won.

All the bucking and weaving saved the employers something in the region of £5 million, most of which should have gone into the busmen's pockets. 'Employers were laughing—as well they might. Trade union leaders were dithering—as is their custom. Only bus crews were weeping—as is their usual fate.' (*Platform*, June 1965). So incensed were some of the Midland bus crews about the delay that they were on the verge of tearing up their T & GWU cards.

On July 15, representatives of 91 municipal transport authorities will meet in London to consider a call for greater central control of local wage negotiations. What is happening is, some municipal authorities have been forced to concede 'bits and pieces' to their bus crews in the hope of keeping them. Coventry have broken the sound barrier, they have offered their busmen a 20% increase in an effort to end overtime working, reduce the staff shortage and improve efficiency. The Coventry offer could and should snowball throughout the country (if there are not too many strings). All busmen should board this bus, even London. The old maxim 'One can pay, all should pay'.

B.C.

The Government's Attack on Wages and Conditions

IT IS A SAD fact that many activists in the Trade Union movement support the Labour Party. No doubt many of these support a policy which stands further to the 'left' in the political spectrum than that of the present Labour Party, but they nevertheless think that their Trade Union activities should have the political wing of the party.

The unions were in existence before the Labour Party, which was their creation. No doubt to many this seemed the obvious way out. One only had to win a general election and, with the workers being in a majority, this must have seemed only a matter of time. Then any laws designed to restrict the Trade Union movement would be repealed. Different Labour Governments have done just this, but it also must be remembered that trade unionists had achieved the repeal of restrictive laws before the advent of the Labour Party.

CALLAGHAN AND CHAMBERS OF ONE MIND

Each time the Labour Party has formed a government, it has automatically had the support of the Trade Unions, but each time, far from serving the interests of these members, Labour Governments have been content to administer the capitalist system. In doing so, they have attacked the wages and conditions of those, in theory, they were supposed to represent. The last time they formed the government, they promised stable prices but these continued to rise to which their answer was a 'wage freeze'.

We face a similar situation today. Prices, according to the Ministry of Labour, have risen faster in the year ended April 1965, than in the previous ten years. This sort of thing, say the

Government, will price our industries out of world markets, so we have an incomes policy. But as usual the main force of this policy will hit the wage earner. It will be his standard of living that will suffer.

What of profits? From what the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Callaghan, said recently, he does not seem worried about these and the employers had further proof that they had nothing to fear from the Labour Party. He said, 'I regard the making of profit by private enterprise as of the greatest significance at the present time.' Sir Paul Chambers, chairman of ICI, has also expressed the same sentiments: 'We are not ashamed of making profits.' Of course, if one is a supporter and upholder of the capitalist system, profits are the measure of success.

LIMITING MANAGEMENT POWER

It is not only a matter of freezing wages to a 3% norm, for conditions of work are also under attack. These are not referred to as such, but are called 'restrictive practices', meaning anything that restricts output. These include tea-breaks, washing time, and size of gangs, conditions which have been won over the years and are now often taken for granted. These job conditions are a very important aspect in the workers' struggle. They are aspects of control over the job, which are now in the hands of the workers. These have developed farther in some industries than in others.

An analysis of the report on strikes in the Ministry of Labour *Gazette* shows that control of job conditions was a major reason for disputes with the employers. In fact over half of the strikes in 1964 were over some aspect of control. In this category 6.7% disputes which

were actually about 'working arrangements'. These figures also show that demarcation disputes only made up 2.4% of the total strikes. This type of dispute comes in for a great deal of criticism from the Press (not ungrounded I know), but they received far more publicity than their number warrant.

These figures, I think, indicate that workers are seeing beyond the contents of their wage packet. Even though it is not necessarily a conscious move towards workers' control, it is nevertheless, I think, one to limit the power of managements. The *Gazette* figures do not go into details as to what industries were involved in the types of disputes that took place, but the report does show that those that had the most strikes were those where the greatest amount of rationalisation is taking place, such as the mining, iron and steel and car industries.

IN THE NAME OF LOYALTY

These industries, where new methods and rationalisation are being introduced, will have a lot of attention focussed on them. We are told that workers must accept these new ways and increase productivity. Mr. Callaghan has said that we must do '60 minutes work in an hour'. What a cold hard statement that is! It seems quite inhuman, as though he is talking about a machine, but after all this is how the work force is seen by those who are giving the orders. Mr. Callaghan doesn't say that we must do this to make bigger profits, but to make our economy stronger.

Once again a Labour Government is using the working people of this country to solve the problems of a capitalist economy. It is the wage earner who will be called upon to make the sacrifice.

P.T.